



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, December 30, 2008

Electricity

Update: About 54,000 Customers Remain Without Power in Michigan December 30 More Than 100,000 Still in the Dark in Canada after Weekend Storms

Some 35,000 DTE Energy customers and 19,000 Consumers Energy customers remained without power in Michigan, as of 3:00 PM EDT, the utilities reported December 30. DTE Energy, which saw peak outages of 230,000 customers, said it expected to restore electricity to 90 percent of its service territory by late tonight, and complete repairs on Wednesday, December 31. Consumers Energy also expected a full restoration by tomorrow. In Canada, Hydro One reported 68,595 Ontario customers still without electricity, and Hydro-Quebec an additional 32,000 Quebec customers. Strong winds hampered restoration efforts yesterday in Ontario, and Hydro One said it could take a few days to restore power to certain areas. It expects a full restoration by the end of the week.

http://www.hydrooneetworks.com/en/about/our_services/power_outage_maps/NewReports/outage_summary.html

<http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/December2008/30/c4657.html>

<http://my.dteenergy.com/main/indexStorm.html>

<http://www.consumersenergy.com/welcome.htm>

<http://news.aol.ca/article/thousands-in-ont-que-without-power/469444/>

http://www.citynews.ca/news/news_30513.aspx

<http://my.dteenergy.com/main/indexStorm.html>

<http://www.consumersenergy.com/welcome.htm>

<http://www.radioowensound.com/news.php?id=17253>

Fire, Explosion Cuts Power to Parts of Downtown Savannah, Georgia December 29

An underground fire led to a manhole cover explosion, cutting power to Georgia Power customers in downtown Savannah, Georgia December 29. It was not clear from multiple sources how many customers were in the dark. Georgia Power restored power to all affected customers by yesterday evening, but said it might take time to determine a cause.

http://www.wtoctv.com/Global/story.asp?S=9592856&nav=menu89_1_3

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gEG5pWb55PO69fGeKMGgDFWFB6ogD95CGJV84>

Update: Exelon's 1,154 MW Braidwood Nuke Unit 2 in Illinois Ramped Up to 63 Percent by December 30

The unit shut on December 27 after an electrical fault caused a transformer to trip, Exelon said. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of December 29 the unit was operating at 7 percent.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idINN3032251120081230>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

NRC to Continue Increased Oversight at Entergy's 2,611 MW Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant in New York

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will extend its increased oversight of Entergy's Indian Point nuclear power plant through 2009, it told company officials. Specifically, the NRC will monitor groundwater conditions at the facility. "To date, Entergy has demonstrated satisfactory performance in addressing the contaminated groundwater conditions," an NRC official said. But further oversight is necessary to "appropriately monitor (Indian Point's) efforts to address the groundwater."

<http://www.lohud.com/article/2008812290331>

OPG Shuts, Restarts 494 MW Lambton Coal-fired Unit 4 in Ontario December 29-30

Reuters, 17:44 December 29, 2008

Reuters, 11:15 December 30, 2008

OPG's 490 MW Nanticoke Coal-fired Unit 8 in Ontario Shut December 29

Reuters, 17:44 December 29, 2008

Update: Bruce Power Restarts 750 MW Bruce Nuke Unit 3 in Ontario December 29

The unit shut for unplanned reasons on December 26.

Reuters, 13:29 December 29, 2008

Petroleum

Update: Petro Star's 48,000 b/d Valdez, Alaska Refinery Shut Indefinitely After Fire

Petro Star's 48,000 b/d Valdez, Alaska refinery will remain shut indefinitely, as investigators work to determine the extent of damage caused by a fire December 28-29. The fire occurred in the facility's refractory tower, and damaged parts of the processing facility and associated piping, sources reported. No cause has been determined. Petro Star is working to identify potential customer impacts, should the refinery remain down for a long stretch of time. The incident resulted in no injuries.

<http://www.adn.com/money/industries/oil/story/637197.html>

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/home/permalink/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20081229005477&newsLang=en

Update: Flying J's 66,000 b/d Big West Refinery in Bakersfield, California is no Longer Accepting Oil Shipments—Local Newspaper

Big West Oil LLC is no longer accepting oil shipments at its 66,000 b/d Bakersfield, California refinery, about a week after its parent company, Flying J, declared bankruptcy, the Bakersfield Californian newspaper reported.

Berry Petroleum, which delivers all its Californian crude to the Bakersfield facility, told the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission that, because of the Big West disruption, it had reduced its own output from 17,000 b/d to 5,000 b/d. Big West could not receive oil, Berry Petroleum said, due to "interruptions in its other business relationships." Flying J did not comment on the news, but a Big West spokesman said the company had no plans to change or close the facility.

Bloomberg News, 04:48 December 30, 2008

Big West's 29,400 b/d North Salt Lake City, Utah Refinery Buying Crude on Day-to-Day Basis—Group's Parent Company, Flying J, Declared Bankruptcy this Month

Bloomberg News, 11:33 December 30, 2008

Suncor Finishes Repairs to Oil Sands Upgrader Facility in Alberta, Canada

The upgrader had been running at reduced rates due to a November 26 fire. The blaze occurred in a vacuum unit, during a restart from planned work. No one was hurt.

<http://www.fxstreet.com/news/forex-news/article.aspx?StoryId=04689cac-5769-4a04-a722-7ee3f978e5e6>

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20081229.wsuncorRepairs1229/BNStory/energy/?page=rss&id=RTGAM.20081229.wsuncorRepairs1229>

Natural Gas

Update: After September Explosion, Williams Resumes Throughput along Segment of 8.2 Bcf/d, Texas-to-New York Transco B Natural Gas Pipeline

Williams received approval from the U.S. Department of Transportation to resume full service along a repaired segment of its Transco B natural gas pipeline, and the line reached full operating pressure on December 26, the company said. An explosion in Virginia ruptured the line on September 14. During repairs, Transco reduced pressure along its A and C lines. It returned Line A to service in November, and said it would resume normal throughput along line C in early 2009. The 30-inch, 8.2 Bcf/d Transco pipeline stretches from Texas to New York. Bloomberg News, 16:43 December 29, 2008

Update: Enterprise Completes Hurricane-Related Repairs to 1.8 Bcf/d HIOS Natural Gas Pipeline in Gulf of Mexico

Enterprise Products Partners completed repairs to its High Island Offshore System (HIOS) natural gas pipeline, and received federal authorization to resume service, the company said in a release. A 42-inch section of the pipeline was damaged during Hurricane Ike in September. The 291-mile HIOS system delivers natural gas from multiple fields in the Gulf of Mexico to numerous third-party pipelines.

<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=80547&p=NewsArticle&id=1239784>

Other News

Nothing to report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices December 30, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	38.95	29.74	97.07
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	5.81	5.39	7.11

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Winds Cut Power to 14,743 Connecticut Light & Power Customers in Connecticut December 30—9,696 Without Power, as of Latest Reports

http://www.wtnh.com/dpp/news/news_wtnh_high_winds_knock_out_power_200812301242

<http://www.cl-p.com/outage/default.aspx>

Emergency Officials Seek to Increase Spending on Nuclear Accident Training after Mistakes During Exercise at Dominion's 560 MW Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant in Wisconsin

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Wis-officials-want-more-apf-13929141.html>

Instrumentation Issues Cause Flaring at Valero's 289,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery December 29 – No Affect to Production, Company Says

Reuters, 09:22 December 30, 2008

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118186>

Alyeska Pipeline's 800-mile Trans Alaska Oil Pipeline Shuts, Restarts on Weather, Storage Issues in Alaska December 29-30—North Slope Producers Cut Production by 10 Percent

<http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSN3033658120081230>

<http://www.idahostatesman.com/1419/story/617515.html>

DJN, 12:11 December 30, 2008

Bloomberg News, 11:52 December 30, 2008

Average U.S. Gasoline Prices Hit \$1.61, Down \$1.44 Year-on-Year—EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/gdu/gasdiesel.asp>

http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/energy/2008-12-29-gas-prices-eia-weekly-survey_N.htm

LNG Tanker Suez Matthew Disabled Offshore Massachusetts December 28

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200812/LNG Tanker Loses Propulsion Offshore Mas 14438.aspx](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200812/LNG_Tanker_Loses_Propulsion_Offshore_Mas_14438.aspx)

Update: Pipelines from Woodside's Proposed LNG Terminal Offshore California Have 16-48 Percent Chance of Damaging Earthquakes Near Route—USGS

http://www.ogj.com/display_article/348964/7/ONART/none/Trasp/1/USGS:-Planned-LNG-line-off-California-in-quake-zone/

FERC Gives Guardian Pipeline Okay to Begin Service on Guardian Natural Gas Expansion and Extension Project in Wisconsin December 29

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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